

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-10 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 6 are amended and claim 5 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. The undersigned gratefully acknowledges and thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter. For reasons as discussed below, it is believed that all the claims are now allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Objection To Claim 1

The Office Action objects to claim 1 due to minor informality. Claim 1 has been amended to obviate the minor informality. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Beres 119 (U.S. Patent No. 4,035,119); rejects claims 1, 3 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Beres '767 (U.S. Patent No. 5,190,767); and rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Beres '119 or Beres '767 in view of Schaevitz (U.S. Patent No. 2,333,588). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable feature of claim 5. Accordingly, claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claim 6 has been amended to depend on independent claim 1, and therefore also defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-4 and 7-10 depend from independent claim 1, and therefore define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4 and 6-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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